UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Food and Nutrition Service 3101 Park Center Drive Alexandria, VA 22302

ACTION BY: Regional Directors

Special Nutrition Programs

Prohibition Against Denying Meals and Milk to Children as a Disciplinary Action

I PURPOSE

This Instruction prohibits the denial of meals and milk as a disciplinary action against any child who is enrolled in a school participating in the Chile Nutrition Programs. Such denial of meals or milk is inconsistent with Section 2 and 9 of the National School Lunch Act and Sections 2,3, and 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.

II POLICY

Disciplinary action which <u>indirectly</u> results in the loss of meals or milk is allowable (e.g., a student is suspended from school). However, when the withholding of meals or milk is the disciplinary action or if the disciplinary action <u>directly</u> results in the loss of meals or milk, it is inconsistent with the law and is not allowable (e.g., a student is suspended from school during the meal or milk period only).

III RESPONSIBILITIES

- A State agencies or Regional Offices, where applicable, shall:
- 1 Notify all school food authorities that denying a meal or milk to any eligible child as a disciplinary measure is contrary to the National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.
- 2 Follow through as necessary with the appropriate school food authority to correct and prevent recurrence of any reported instances disciplinary action which directly results in denial of a paid, free or reduced price meal, or free or paid milk.

DISTRIBUTION: SNP,F1,E	MANUAL MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS: Remove FNS Instruction 791-1 from Manual. Insert this Instruction.	RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE: CND-100	Page 1 7-12-88

B School food authorities shall:

- 1 When considering a disciplinary action against any child, ensure that such action is consistent with the policy contained herein.
- 2 Make a reimbursable meal or milk available to any child attending school who, for disciplinary reasons is not allowed to eat in the cafeteria.

Deputy Administrator

for Special Nutrition Programs